



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 043931-0138

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2602

In re Patent Application of

Denis BABIN

Serial No. 09/944,109

Group Art Unit: 1722

Filed: September 4, 2001

Examiner: Unassigned

For: VALVE GATE ASSEMBLY FOR INJECTION MOLDING

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the application on the merits, please amend the above-captioned application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121(b)(1), please amend the specification by substituting the following paragraphs for the corresponding paragraphs originally filed, as indicated below. The changes are shown explicitly in the attached "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

Replace paragraph [0007] with the following rewritten version of the same paragraph:

A¹
[0007] The devices of Frei, Asai and Taylor, however, can also result in the appearance of flow lines in the final product. To combat this problem, U.S. Patent Nos. 5,783,234 and 5,840,231, both to Teng and incorporated herein by reference, disclose an even more complex apparatus to recombine the individual streams of molten resin after they are split and prior to entering the cavity gate, so as to minimize the appearance of flow lines. The apparatuses of Frei, Asai, Taylor and Teng, however, all require careful machining and make a resin colour change a laborious and time consuming proposition, as the intricate surfaces must be carefully cleaned before a new colour resin can be introduced.